

The “EYE”

Crime Free Dollars

A Larceny From Auto Awareness Program

The citizens of Lincoln suffer approximately one million dollars in loss due to larceny from autos annually. Some of the most frequently targeted vehicles appear to be those owned by high school and college age people. In the spring of 2003 the Lincoln Police Crime Prevention Unit teamed up with AAA Insurance and the Crime Free Dollars program was initiated. This is how the program works: (1) Officers contact students at the six Lincoln public high schools and ask them to make sure their vehicles are locked and their valuables are either removed from the car or concealed; (2) The school parking lots are then randomly surveyed and the license numbers of the vehicles in compliance are recorded; (3) A drawing is then held for each high school and the student drawn is then awarded \$50 in cash provided by AAA Insurance. Including this years winners, AAA Insurance has paid out \$850. This year's winners are:

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| ◇ Nichole Chrastil | North Star High School |
| ◇ Lindsey Honnens | Southwest High School |
| ◇ Sean Haar | Northeast High School |
| ◇ Elliott Cain | Southeast High School |
| ◇ Chris Blair | Lincoln High School |
| ◇ Kathryn Huebner | East High School |



Sergeant Mike Siefkes of the Crime Prevention Unit and AAA Office manager Marilyn Muir.



National Night Out 2005

It's that time of year again. Time to start planning your National Night Out (NNO) Neighborhood Watch meeting. This August 2nd will be the 22nd Annual National Night Out and 34 million people from more than 10,000 communities will get together to promote police-community partnerships, crime prevention and neighborhood unity.

This year the U.S. Department of Homeland Security will be joining in with it's **“Ready”** campaign. In an effort to prepare Americans for emergencies, from natural disasters to potential terrorist attacks, **“Ready”** asks citizens to do three thing: get an emergency kit put together, make a family emergency plan, and be informed on what different types of emergencies could occur and how to respond to them (see www.Ready.gov for more information). If you're planning a NNO meeting and would like to have a police officer attend your meeting, please give us a call at the Lincoln Police Department Crime Prevention Unit by July 25th at 441-7261 or 441-6351.



Is Your Dog Welcome In Your Neighborhood?

The following information should help you keep your neighbors and your pets happy:

Barking: Owners are required to control their dog's barking. If you own, keep, or harbor any dog which by loud, continued, or frequent/excessive barking, howling, or yelping that annoys or disturbs any neighborhood person or persons for more than 15 minutes, you own a nuisance animal.

Walking: Owners are required by law to use a leash, 6 feet in length or less, when walking a dog, except at the designated dog runs.

Scooping the Poop: Owners are required by law to clean up after their dog on public and private property. Home owners are required to clean up their yards every five days.

Rabies: Dogs, cats and ferrets are required by law to be vaccinated for rabies by three months of age by a licensed veterinarian.

License: Dogs and cats are required by law to be licensed by six months of age. Altered dogs and cats licenses may be purchased at 1/2 price.

Dog Running at Large: It is illegal for the owner of any dog to let such dog run at large, whether licensed or not, at anytime within the city. On owner's property only, a dog can be unconfined if the dog can be controlled by the owner's voice (most dogs should be leashed or fenced in). An owner must be outside where the dog is located at all times and be able to keep the dog on the owner's property, which does not include the sidewalk area. The invisible fence concept is illegal in the City of Lincoln as your only fence. It is acceptable if you use it as a secondary fence.

Care: All pets must have access to shade, other than a doghouse, at all times during warm weather. All pets must have clean, fresh water available at all times and secured in a manner to prevent spilling.

Confinement: All pets that are tethered must have a properly fitted collar or harness and the chain, leash, wire, cable or similar restraint must be at least 10 feet in length but not allow the pet to leave the property on which it is tethered. Choke chain collars, prong or pinch collars, or any collar devised training are prohibited for the purpose of tethering.

Kennel Space Requirements: (Dog Size)	(Square Feet Required)
Extra Large - Over 26" at wither or over 75 lbs	48
Large - over 20" up to 26" at wither or not over 75 lbs	40
Medium - over 12" and up to 20" at withers or not over 50 lbs	32
Small - 12" or less at withers or not over 20 lbs	24

(An additional 16 square feet is required for each dog sharing the pen with another.)

Motor Vehicle or Trailer: It is illegal to confine an animal in a car, truck or trailer when it places the animal in dangerous conditions that may cause suffering, disability, injury or death.

Roosters: It is illegal to own a rooster in the Lincoln city limits.

Dog Kennels: Dog kennels are prohibited. No residence or business can own more than three dogs six months of age or older.

Cats: No more than 5 neutered or spayed cats may be owned without a permit.

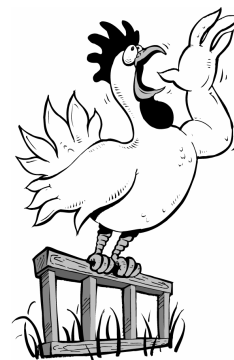
Cats Running at Large: It is illegal to let a cat run at large unless a valid license tag is attached and cat is spayed or neutered.

Lincoln has great neighborhoods. Be the neighbor that everyone wants. You can keep you, your neighbor and your pet happy. Be responsible pet owner.

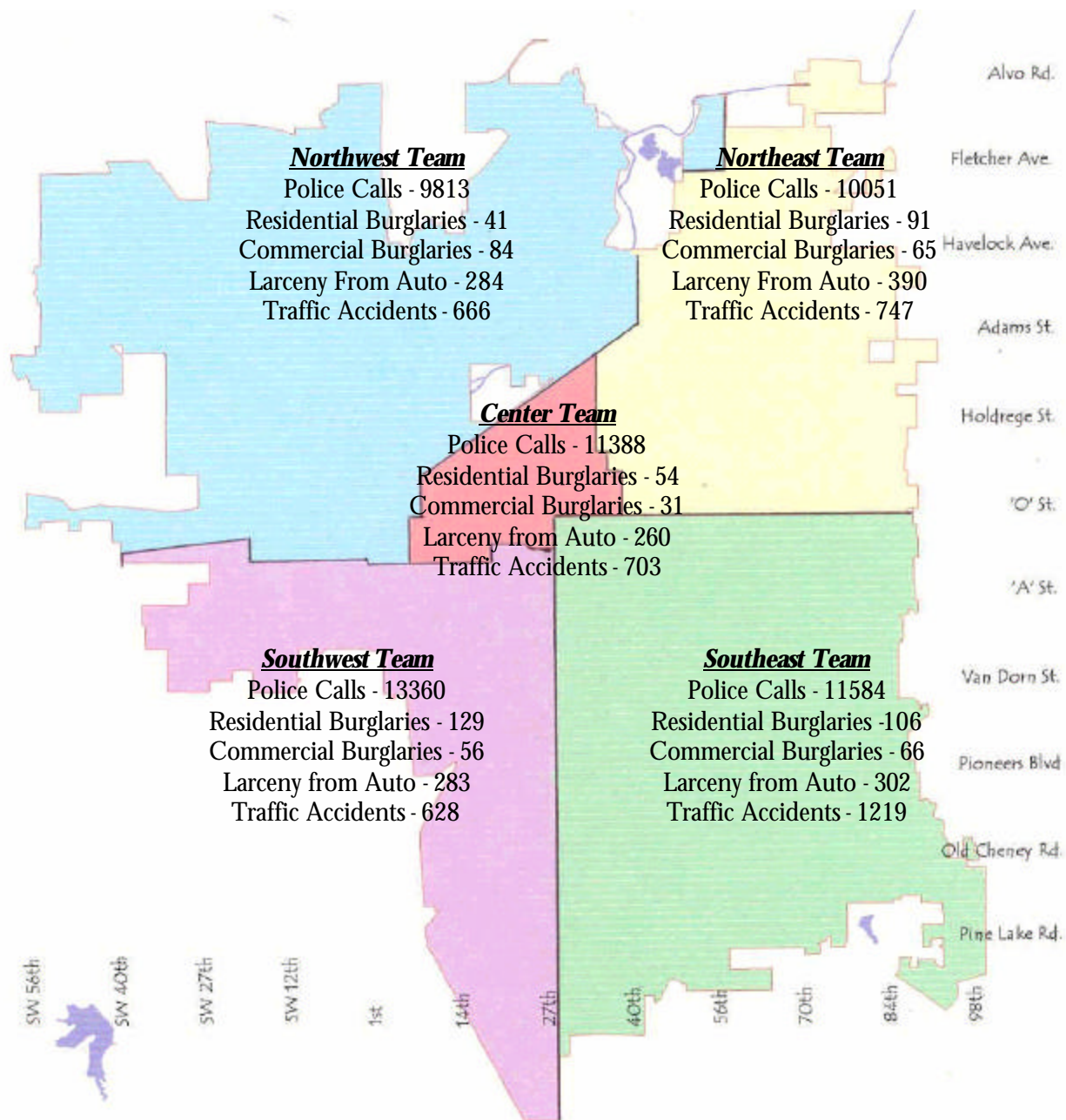
Kris Johnson

Education Officer

Lincoln Animal Control



SUMMARY OF REPORTED CRIMES between 1-1-2005 and 5-31-2005



STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Through May of 2005 there have been 57402 police calls for service across the city. This is 8% fewer calls for service than in the same time frame in 2004. The total number of residential burglaries for the city so far is 464, a 6.7% increase from the previous year. Larcenies from auto reports are up 4.4% compared to this same time period last year. As of the end May 1585 incidents of larceny from auto have been reported.

During the first five months of the year there have been 259 commercial burglaries reported. Compared to the same time period in 2004 that leaves us with a 46.3% increase in business break-ins. This is still an unusually high increase in burglaries, but it is down some from the February numbers. The police department asks you to continue to pay attention to neighborhood businesses for any unusual people or occurrences and to call the police when you see any suspicious activities.

The “EYE”

Lincoln Police Department
Crime Prevention Unit
575 South 10th St.
Lincoln, NE 68508

Return Service Requested

HOME REPAIR AND SALES SCAMS

That time of year has come again.....time for home repair and sales scams! As summer approaches and our thoughts turn to cleaning up and repairing our homes, deck, windows, roofs, etc., the home repair and sales scam artists are waiting in the shadows for us to let our guard down. It is not uncommon for people to engage the services of companies that promise the best deal, quickest work, “guaranteed work” and a myriad of other “specials” that only their company offers. However, a little detective work on your part may save you from falling prey to the scam that costs consumers thousands of dollars each year.

The scam is simple. The “traveling repair companies” enter the area at the time of year when persons are looking to do home repair or immediately after a natural disaster. They go door to door introducing themselves as “licensed repair specialists” and explain that they have left over materials and ask if you would like them to fix or repair your roof, driveway, windows, etc. They tell you they can do the repairs at a reduced cost. The “deal” is often only a verbal agreement and no contract is presented. If they do present a “contract” it is open ended with no completion date, no specific company name and no listed price. They often do not complete the job and almost always ask for cash up front before starting the job. Sales scams are similar in that they promise a product that you must “order” and will receive later; or they are selling items out of the back of an unmarked pickup or vehicle. Recently, the Legislature passed a law that prohibited the door-to-door sales by any juvenile under 16 years of age.

Here are some tips to protect yourself from the common “Sales/Repair Scams”:

- Ask for a City Peddler’s Permit (Anyone selling things door to door needs one!)
- Always demand a written contract for a job and READ IT!
- Check to see if the “Company” has a local address and contact the Better Business Bureau (BBB) for referrals.

When in doubt, call the Police Department to check them out.